

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-14 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

USIA-15 ACDA-19 OMB-01 SR-02 ORM-03 SAM-01 SAB-01

DRC-01 (ISO) W

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R 211513Z MAR 74

FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4754

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

USUN NEW YORK 202

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FROM MEPC DEL

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, XF, EG

SUBJECT: EGYPTIAN DIPLOMAT ON PALESTINIAN ATTENDANCE AT GENEVA

REF: CAIRO 1399 (NOTAL)

1. NEWLY APPOINTED EGYPTIAN DEPUTY PERMREP IN GENEVA EL-ARABY JUST ARRIVED HERE FOLLOWING MONTH AND A HALF OF DUTY IN CAIRO AFTER ATTENDING MEPC OPENING SESSIONS AND SUBSEQUENT MILITARY TALKS. HE TOLD DELOFF MARCH 21 HE FOUND RECENT EVOLUTION IN FEDAYEEN ATTITUDE TOWARD MIDDLE EAST SETTLEMENT TO BE PROFOUND. AS MEMBER OF EGYPTIAN DEL TO RECENT MOSLEM SUMMIT, EL-ARABY RODE TO AND FROM LAHORE ON PLANE WITH SEVERAL FATAH LEADERS AND SPENT TWO DAYS RELAXING WITH THEM IN LAHORE AFTER SUMMIT.

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2. ACCORDING TO EL-ARABY, PLO LEADERSHIP WANTS VERY MUCH TO ATTEND MEPC IN GENEVA. EL-ARABY SAID THAT ALTHOUGH THEY ARE NOT READY SO TO DECLARE PUBLICLY, MOST FEDAYEEN LEADERS HAVE DECIDED TO ACCEPT FACT OF ISRAEL'S EXISTENCE. IF PLO COMES TO GENEVA, IT MAY POSTURE ABOUT NON-ACCEPTANCE OF ISRAEL'S EXISTENCE, BUT ACT OF JOINING CONFERENCE WOULD AMOUNT TO SUCH ACCEPTANCE AND WOULD BE SO CONSIDERED IN ARAB WORLD.

3. EL-ARABY EXPRESSED VIEW THAT ONE FACESAVING WAY PLO COULD BE ENABLED TO COME TO GENEVA WOULD BE FOR UNSC TO CON- VENE AND, WITHOUT ANY SPEECHES OR DEBATE, TO RESOLVE THAT "PALESTINIAN QUESTION" SHOULD BE TAKEN UP BY MEPC. SOME- THING LIKE THIS WOULD BE NEEDED, EL-ARABY SAID, BECAUSE FEDAYEEN COULD NOT USE RESOLUTION 242 AS POINT OF REFERENCE, SINCE 242 SPEAKS ONLY OF PROBLEM OF REFUGEES.

4. COMMENT. EL-ARABY'S LINE ABOUT 242 AND FEDAYEEN NEED FOR NEW POINT OF REFERENCE IS STRIKINGLY SIMILAR TO EXPOSITION MADE TWO DAYS EARLIER BY ASST SEC GEN OF ARAB LEAGUE TO CAIRO EMBOFF (REFTEL), AND THIS MAY SUGGEST EMERGENCY GOE POSITION ON SUBJECT.DALE

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Message Attributes

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